

DASHING PHILS LOOK LIKE REVIVED TEAM—VAN LOAN'S BASEBALL STORY, "THE CRAB"

STALLINGS SWEARS HE'LL WIN DESPITE WALLOPINGS BY PHILS

Baseball Fans, However, Who Saw the Boston Bunch, Fail to Follow the "Boss" Reasoning—Fogel Declares He Will Soon Own Baseball Club

Those who have attended the first two games of the series between the Phillies and Braves are almost unanimous in the opinion that the Braves cannot repeat in the National League. Manager Stallings, however, insists that his team is sure to win out. He says that the race has almost two months to run, and that the Phillies and Dodgers will slip rapidly once they get the bad breaks the Braves have had.

A five-game lead at this stage of the race might be too much for some teams, but, according to Stallings, it does not worry his men in the least, and they will win the pennant with that margin of games to spare.

Just what Stallings bases his prediction on is hard to see, as the Braves have looked bad in both games here. They still possess that remarkable and valuable "never-say-die" spirit, and the reported return to form of Bill James is apparently the reason for this confidence.

Even with James, Rudolph and Tyler in shape, it is hard to see how the Braves can hope to overhaul the Phillies if Moran's team can finish up the season with the same confidence and dash that were noticeable on Saturday. It was the first time in a month that the Phillies waded into their opponents absolutely sure that they were the better team and must win.

The Braves have threatened to return to their 1914 form several times, but have always failed in the pinch. The Phillies and Dodgers have faltered, and several times have apparently been on the verge of cracking, but each time they have come back with a rush, and it begins to look as if neither team is going to please the dopesters.

Dooin Regards Brooklyn as Best Club in League

Charley Dooin, former Philly manager, who is now catching for the Giants, was in this city yesterday, and declared that the Dodgers, in the two games played with the Giants on Friday and Saturday, looked by far better to him than any team he had seen throughout the season.

Despite the fact that success for the Phillies is to a certain extent a reflection on Dooin's managerial ability, he says he wants to see the Phillies win the pennant if the Giants fail, and he believes they have a wonderful chance with Alexander in shape.

Mayer May Take Rest; Demaree in Rare Form

A continuation of the splendid pitching that has featured the Phillies' fight for the pennant is altogether probable, though it is likely that Erskine Mayer will have a rest for a few days.

The sidetracking of Mayer in favor of Al Demaree for Saturday's game came as a surprise to the fans, and means either that the confidence in Mayer's condition is lacking or Demaree is in wonderful form. The latter is evidently the case, as the former Giant twirler was in rare shape, and the Braves never had a chance for victory.

Demaree had by far more confidence than he has shown on the home field this season, and actually laughed and kidded the Braves throughout Saturday's game. Perhaps the large lead given him caused Demaree to take such a humorous view of the situation, but he certainly looked better than ever before.

Cincinnati Club in Straits, Likely to Be Sold

The reported efforts to sell the Cincinnati National League Club are not a surprise, as it has been known for some time that finances were low. Garry Herrmann denies that an option on the franchise was ever offered to any one connected with the Federal League, but since the famous Tinker fiasco it is a well-known fact in Cincinnati that Herrmann has no authority, and has been merely a figure-head president for two years.

Herrmann's blunder in allowing Tinker to go to the Feds was the end of his reign with absolute authority. As mentioned here before, Harry Stevens, representing the Fleischman interests which control the majority of the stock, has been traveling with the team for two years, and his sanction is necessary before Herrmann can consummate any deal involving money or players.

Herrmann, Much Advertised, a Figurehead

That Herrmann has not even been consulted in regard to the sale of the club is evident, and judging by remarks made by Manager Herzog and Secretary Stevens, conditions have been so poor in Cincinnati that the owners were willing to sell for almost anything.

It is barely possible, being in this frame of mind, that they believed that the Feds would give them more than any other prospective buyer and would have sold to them. The fact that Herrmann is chairman of the National Commission, and has always been well press-agented because he is a prince of good fellows, has led the fans throughout the country to believe that he was the owner of the team and a very wealthy man, but such is far from the case.

The club has always been controlled by the Fleischman brothers, and when Julius bought a big block of stock in the New York Americans it was decided to get rid of the Cincinnati stock, as Max, his brother, is said to have lost interest in the game.

Is Horace Fogel Going to Buy Cincinnati Club?

In connection with the reported sale of the Reds and the transfer of the Locke stock in the Phillies, a little incident that occurred early last week is of interest.

Horace Fogel, former president of the Phillies, was entertaining some friends when some one called Fogel's attention to an article that appeared in these columns concerning leniency toward Johnny Evers for the very thing that caused the downfall of Fogel.

Fogel declared that he was not barred from the National League, and that the directors voted that they would refuse to sit in a meeting with him.

"But let me tell you, they'll sit in the meeting with me if I can pull off a deal I am working on now," said Fogel. "I will be back in baseball before this season is over, and don't forget it. I got out of the National League because they raised the price on the Phillies, and I did not have enough time to raise the money to exercise the option. I have been offered one position with a club in organized ball since last winter, but I turned it down because I am going to own a club whether they want me to or not. They don't want Murphy, but he is still in there."

Fogel Was Laughed at Once Before

Fogel said something like this several years ago when he gained control of the Phillies, but nobody paid any attention to him until the deal was consummated. The "irrepressible Horace" had told almost every baseball writer in town that he was buying the Phillies at that time; but they thought he was dreaming, and did not even think the news worth even a note. Perhaps he is bluffing now, and then again perhaps he is not.

Sale of Rube Benton Unfair to Pennant Contenders

It is hoped that President Tener is not going to sit idly by and watch the greatest race in the history of the National League spoiled by club owners who are always on the make. The selling of star players at this time of the year, with conditions as they are, should be stopped.

The Reds have sold Rube Benton to the Pirates, but the Giants now step in with the claim of a prior option on the services of the big left-hander. It does not matter where he eventually lands, it is an unfair proposition to the other clubs in the National League.

Cincinnati is selling Benton at this time because it can get twice as much for him now as it could after the season closes. Benton, in shape, is one of the best left-handed pitchers in the country, and could make any one of the pennant contenders a heavy favorite. While he has never been rated as an Alexander, the principle is just the same as if Moran, out of the race, sold the king of pitchers to another in order to help them win the pennant.

With the Tulpehocken Reds, a local baseball organization, is a young twirler who will be watching. He is not a Plank yet, but a Plank. Saturday Flant held the fast Germantown team to two hits and easily won a shut-out victory.

Gallagher, star pitcher of the E. G. Budd & Co. team, is going better every day. Against the Electric Storage Company nine, of the Industrial League, Saturday, he hurled his best game of the season, allowing but two hits and striking out 13 batters.

WHEN A FELLER NEEDS A FRIEND



BROOKLYN, ON BASEBALL DOPE, LOOKS LIKE CLASS OF LEAGUE

Dodgers Have Not Been Forced to Depend on One Star Hurler, and There Is Batting Strength in the Club—Lines to Stuff McInnis

By GRANTLAND RICE

Lines to Stuff McInnis

Stuffy, I've often wondered Just how it seems to you, Groping around in the cellar, Part of a tail-end crew; Under the Yanks and Indians, Trailing even the Browns— You who were part of the Cossack

That raided the captured towns. Stuffy, I've often wondered Here in my Harlem den, Do ghosts of the lost years ever Gather for you again? Ghosts of the vanished legion Back ere the bubble burst, With Collins, Baker and Barry Pegging 'em out at first!

Stuffy, watching a rally Curbed by a weaker mate, Doesn't the ghost of Baker Stalk again to the plate? Doesn't the shadow of Bender Quiver about your flank? Back of the shoots of Plank!

Piking along with the trailers, Here as the summer fits, Sometimes test if loosejaw Wasting your two-base hits! Baiting about Three Hundred While hanging on to a dream, Swoop from the years behind you, Last of the Old Regime!

When a drowning man sinks for the third time he generally emits his final gurgle. But this is Hank O'Day's third return as an umpire without the essence of a quiver disturbing that stolid frontispiece.

The tip that McLoughlin employs but one system of play is utterly false. Mac uses at least three shifts. He has a fast one, a faster one—and then the fastest one when needed.

One section of the world series will be staged in Boston. The other section will be staged in Philadelphia, Brooklyn, Pittsburgh—or Boston.

"What is the greatest battery in baseball today?" queries a fan, "Alexander and Killifer or Mammaux and Gibson." Make your own selection.

More N. L. Field Dope

A ball club, upon a general average, is supposed to reach its true form by the first of July. Working on this basic dope, the best clubs in the National League are Brooklyn and Boston. They have played more consistent ball than any other rival, with Pittsburgh and Philadelphia close behind.

While both Giants and Cubs are still upon the edge of the main highway, neither has yet put upon display any consistent flag-winning stuff. So in the September drive the four clubs named above are the ones to be listed as leading contenders.

Comparative Power

How do these four clubs compare? There isn't much to choose among the catchers. Boston and Pittsburgh have the better infielders. There isn't a ranking outfield in the bunch.

In the way of pitching power Brooklyn carries a greater aggregate of class, with Boston next. Pittsburgh and Philadelphia are forced to bank in the main upon two star slabmen—Mammaux and Alexander.

This portion of the dope stands proven in the records. While Mammaux has won 12 games and lost but 1, Adams, Harmon and McQuillen together have only won something like 28 out of 66 games—maintaining nothing better than an even break. Alexander has drawn more help from Mayer, but this athlete in the last six weeks has not been able to win half his games, while Demaree, Rizey and Chalmers have all fallen below the .500 mark in combined conquests.

On the other hand with Sherrod Smith, Dell Rucker, Coombe and Pflieger, Brooklyn hasn't been forced to depend upon any one lone star, as Pittsburgh and Philadelphia have.

Brooklyn at bat carries more of a punch than any of the other three, with Pittsburgh next, Boston third and Philadelphia fourth. But none of the four clubs is hitting the ball as a flagwinner should, all four being below .20.

On the bases Pittsburgh has more speed, but Boston is the best run-maker of the four by a tidy margin.

So in the way of comparative dope Brooklyn has the edge in all-around stuff. Boston has the best of the schedule. Pittsburgh has the best in "street" experience." And the Phillies have Alexander and Cravath.

VICTORY FOR HANNON OVER DIGGINS WOULD PROVE A BIG BOOST

Bantams Meet at Broadway Tonight—Hanon Answers Harris' Query About Louisiana-Williams Bout

WILL STAGE MATCH HERE

Grande-Dillon Match Feature of Olympia's Opening—Snappy Scraps About Scraps and Scrappers

Willie Hannon, promising Point Breeze "pug," who has been winning bouts consistently at the Broadway Club, will have an opportunity to add greatly to his prestige when he faces Young Diggins at the 15th and Washington avenue arena tonight. A victory for Hannon may put him in line for bouts with leading bantams here.

The program follows: First bout—Charley Austin, Southwark, vs. Frank Moore, Boston; Second bout—Charley Phillips, Southwark, vs. Johnny Fitzgerald, Smoky Hollow; Third bout—John Diggins, Southwark, vs. Barney Snyder, Southwark; Fourth bout—John Diggins, Little Italy, vs. Johnny Lincoln, Bell road; Fifth bout—Fred Diggins, Southwark, vs. Willie Hannon, Point Breeze.

Jack Hanlon, manager of Louisiana, "comes back" with an answer to Sam Harris relative to the latter's interrogation. "What right has Louisiana to ask for a match with Williams now?" Hanlon states that Harris' excuse goes well in Baltimore, where the public did not see what Louisiana did to Williams. Hanlon admits Louisiana boxed out of form in his last two bouts.

In part Hanlon's letter states: "I am matchmaker for the largest boxing club in the East, and Williams can have \$1000 to box Louisiana at any date he wants the match. Furthermore, Louisiana will weigh 116 pounds, ring-side, for the kid. This letter did not sound like a fellow is trying to get a reputation. Louisiana has the reputation of flooring the fact that he only flooring him, but making him take the full count. As to the offer of \$500 I promised to give Harris if he will let Louisiana box Williams, that still goes, but the battle must be 20 rounds for the championship of the world."

Sailor Grande and Jack Dillon will meet in the wind-up of the Olympia's opening show, August 20. Billy Bevan and Joe O'Donnell will clash in the semi.

Eddie O'Keefe, local bantam, is working like a Trojan for his match August 27 with Dutch Brandt at Rockaway Beach, N. Y.

A victory for Willie Beecher over Eddie McAndrews at the Douglas Club tomorrow night will mean a return bout for the New Yorker here.

Johnny Griffiths, of Akron, O., will make his Eastern debut tomorrow night at Ebbets Field, Brooklyn, when he pairs off with Leach Cross.

Two important heavyweight matches are billed for New York fans. Wednesday night Jack Hemptle will meet Gumbo Smith, while Jim Coffey and Frank Moran will clash the first week in September.

Gilbert Gallant and Frankie Callahan are booked at Boston, August 24.

A letter from Tommy Reilly states that Preston Brown is ready for a match with Eddie Morgan, 122 pounds ring-side, at an old time.

Max Greenbaum has gathered a good stable for the coming campaign, viz.: Eddie O'Keefe, Frankie Brown and Teddy Jacobs, bantams; Johnny Mayo, feather, and Willie Beecher, lightweight.

The feature fray at the Ludlow Club next Friday night will be between Eddie Hart and Terry Fitzgerald.

Willie Herman showed fine form in his bout with Joe Phelan. The former says he can trim Eddie McAndrews at any weight the latter suggests.

The "wrist-watch" system of counting the "fatal 10" is the talk of local boxing circles. The idea has met with approval by almost every one connected with the game.

Joe Woodard will endeavor to get matched with Eddie Revoire, Jack McCarron and Joe Borrell for Tyrone Costello this season.

BOXING BILL AT LANCASTER

Harry Hensel Arranges Good Card of Ten Rounds Each

At Rocky Springs Theatre, Lancaster, on Thursday evening Harry H. Hensel, Lancaster promoter, will give a show that is already attracting attention, largely from the fact that it will consist of three 10-round bouts between these boys: Johnny Greiner, of Lancaster, vs. Frankie Ernie, of Detroit; Tim Dronoy, of Lancaster, vs. Duke Bowers, of Chicago, and Joe Kelly, of Lancaster, vs. Johnny Gill, of York. It would be difficult to get three better pairs of boys together who are as well known to Lancaster ring followers. The Greiner-Ernie bout promises a lot, for their recent meeting was fairly bristled with excitement, and it was difficult to pick a winner. Complete arrangements for this show will be made, and Mr. Hensel's big platform ring will be placed upon the stage so that all can see from any seat.

BASEBALL OFFICIALS TO MEET

National League Meeting to Be Held in Boston Wednesday

NEW YORK, Aug. 15.—A call for a special meeting of the National League in Boston, Wednesday, August 18, the day set for the opening of the Boston Nationals' new baseball stadium, was announced last night at the office of President John E. Tener. No statement was made concerning the business to come before the meeting.

The world's series pennant, won last year by Boston, will be raised on Wednesday prior to the game with St. Louis, at which time the stadium will be formally christened "Braves Field."

Girls Smash Swim Records

CHICAGO, Aug. 15.—Two world's records for 100-yard swims were broken at the annual meet of swimmers here yesterday. University's summer school by Jacqueline Thompson made the 100-yard dash in 1:10.55, and Miss Thompson, aged 17, set a new 100-yard mark, having been 1:08.55. Miss Thompson, a noted swim professional, lowered the record by 1/10 of a second.

THE CRAB

Henry Gilman, the Demon Crab—How He Got His Name and What He Did With It When He Got It—The Dull Job of Being the Best Third-baseman in the Game

By CHARLES E. VAN LOAN

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It was Charlie Brydon who christened Henry Gilman "The Crab." Charlie, who is the dean of all baseball scribes, possesses the fatal gift of humor and acute characterization in dealing with his victims, and the first week that Gilman appeared with the Pink Sox, Charlie branded him with the name which clung to him to the end of his service. And Gilman, having no more sense of humor than a clearstone Indian, never spoke to a newspaper man after that—which was the very worst thing he could have done.

The baseball fans took to the name instantly, and poor Gilman never had a chance to be anything but "The Crab" during the entire 10 years he played third base for the Pinks. A silent, thoughtful young man, he retired into his shell, and never came out again. The other players made a few attempts to show a friendly interest in the quiet, black-browed fellow, but met with no success, and even on that lively, cheerful team, Gilman never had a pal, or made an intimate friend.

It was not that the Crab had a quarrelsome disposition; it was merely that "he couldn't seem to loosen up," as the players expressed it.

After the first few months, the Pinks dropped him out of their daily schedule. They knew that after he laced his street shoes, and parted his thin, dark hair with the little red comb which he always carried, they would see little more of him until the next day at the ball park.

Gilman never was rated as a sensational performer. He had but one steady gait from opening day to the end of the season, and he never varied it a hair's breadth. This was because he was always doing the best that was in him, he could do no more, and he would do no less.

He never brought the crowd up with a yell as some startling bit of fielding or a lightning "peg" across the diamond. He never got a home run except by accident. He was always just a little bit better than the average player, sane, conservative and good for an batting average of .265 to .275, and he would soon have disposed of his franchise as sold his third baseman.

Gilman had a few specialties which made him deeply respected on both sides of the fence. He was sure death on foul tips back of third base; he made the lives of bunters miserable; he could peg a single into either field just over the heads of the infielders, and Carney, the Pinks' first baseman, said there never was a man in the world who gave less trouble with his assets.

"I don't know how he does it," Carney used to say. "You can watch him all season, and you won't catch him making three low throws to first. They ain't a third baseman in the country who has anything on him when it comes to handling a bunt or a slow ball. He comes from the 'meat-hand' side, either to the ground, straightens up and wham! I can shut my eyes and take a throw from him, because I know just where he's going to put it—and I'll have it on the 'meat-hand' side, either."

"Another thing—I never saw him about a ball in his life. He can't! He just keeps on 'archin' 'em over and just 'em there in time to beat the runner a whisker. And on foul balls! Say! I can think that old boy can't run fast, can't you? That's because he takes one stride and another fellow's three, and if he ever gets within reacher's distance of a ball—good night!"

"Oid? Not so very, but he's been playin' on one team so long that people kind of get the idea that he's old man Metuselsh's only son. Ever see his with his cap off? He's balden't the palm of your hand, and he always gets his cap a little bit small no's to pull it down."

(CONTINUED TOMORROW)

He was sure death on foul tips.

He was seldom seen at a theatre; he could not play billiards or pool; he would not play poker or shoot craps; and it was common rumor that when on the road he saved his entire salary check.

Most of his evenings were spent in his room at the hotel, and the box used to say that he wrote a long letter to his wife every night. Joe Holmes, the manager, knew that the Crab always carried pictures of his wife and the two children with him, and put them up on the dresser in his hall bedroom.

During the winters, the Crab worked hard upon his farm in Kansas, and among ballplayers there was a settled belief that the Crab was almost wealthy. This was not true, for he had never drawn a large salary, as big-league salaries go.

"He's got every dollar he ever made in his life," some of the youngsters used to say. "He must have, because he never spent one!"

This was also a mistake, but the Crab did have 60 acres of good land and a comfortable home—something to go back to when his playing days should be over. Joe Holmes never had any trouble with Gilman when it came time to sign a new contract. Gilman was a business man. He knew, to a cent, what he was worth to the club, and always compromised for a little less.

Each spring the baseball reporters at

RUNS SCORED BY MAJORS LAST WEEK

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Table with columns for Club, Runs, Hits, Errors, and Total. Rows include Athletics, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Kansas City, St. Louis, and Washington.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Table with columns for Club, Runs, Hits, Errors, and Total. Rows include Boston, Brooklyn, Buffalo, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and St. Louis.

FEDERAL LEAGUE

Table with columns for Club, Runs, Hits, Errors, and Total. Rows include Baltimore, Brooklyn, Buffalo, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, New York, and St. Louis.

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EVENING LEDGER MOVIES—AFTER THAT CATCH SATURDAY, GEORGE WHITTED MAY HAVE A MILLION OF THESE, EH, LOUIE?

